



DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

MORE EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

USAID/Liberia works to help Liberia build the institutions and processes essential to consolidating its democratic gains by providing support for, among other things, the transparent and accountable management of public resources, civil service reforms, free and fair elections, the rule of law, domestic resource mobilization, decentralization, stronger civil society organizations, and a more professional media sector.

EFFECTIVE AND TRANSPARENT INSTITUTIONS

USAID works with the Government of Liberia to improve performance and strengthen public sector management capacity. Using in-depth assessments and performance improvement methodologies, our projects aim to bolster human and institutional capacity within targeted ministries, agencies, and commissions (MACs). USAID supports the Government of Liberia's Public Financial Management Reform Strategy, Government efforts to reform and modernize public and civil service, improved connectivity and information sharing among MACs, and implementation of the National Policy on Decentralization and Local Governance.

RULE OF LAW

USAID supports key Liberian legal training and regulatory institutions, strengthening the capacity of legal professionals in Liberia, while promoting access to justice, positive involvement of traditional leaders in

peaceful resolution of disputes, and better linkages between formal and informal justice systems. USAID is also supporting efforts to detect, investigate, and prosecute corruption cases.

CIVIL SOCIETY AND MEDIA

USAID's Civil Society and Media programs are focused on increasing access to independent and reliable information by strengthening civil society organizations and increasing their ability to partner with government in local development and engage in issues-based reforms. Concurrently, USAID is working to professionalize media houses, promote adherence to journalistic standards and ethics, strengthen the legal environment for free media, and improve the Liberia Information Commission's responsiveness to requests for information from citizens and media institutions.

LAND GOVERNANCE

USAID is working with the Government of Liberia to strengthen its land governance systems through policy and legal reforms and institutional capacity development. USAID is helping to operationalize the Liberia Land Authority, which was created in October 2016 as the new unified land regulatory body. USAID will also support new titling systems and community self-identification processes to strengthen land access and use rights for customary communities.

ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PROCESSES

USAID played a key role in supporting the National Elections Commission (NEC) to successfully conduct the historic 2017 presidential and legislative elections, which represented Liberia's first peaceful transfer of power through credible, democratic elections in over 70 years and its first-ever transition from a ruling to an opposition party. Additionally, USAID supports the work of civil society organizations to amplify the NEC's civic and voter education programs and to provide oversight of electoral processes, procedures, and events. USAID programs specifically promote women's political participation both as voters and as candidates. USAID also works with political parties to foster member-oriented and issues-based organizations that can comply with NEC regulations as the 2020 senatorial elections approach.

DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Liberia is one of a handful of Missions to be accepted into the pilot Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) initiative. The Liberia DRM program allows USAID/Liberia to build the capacity of targeted Government of Liberia institutions to improve DRM and strengthen taxpayer education and engagement on DRM-related issues, with the aim of building tax morale, increasing voluntary tax compliance, and fostering greater trust between taxpayers and the government. In exchange, the GOL will allocate an equivalent portion of the revenue increases attributable to the DRM program to mutually-agreed ministries and agencies for expenditure on priority investments in education, water and sanitation, health, agriculture, and natural resource management.